Deux
Love Frequency
Live Prisoner
I Shall Never Return
3
Kazuna Uchida
EXPLICIT CONTENT

I Shall Never Return 3

Kazuna Uchida

Act one 2

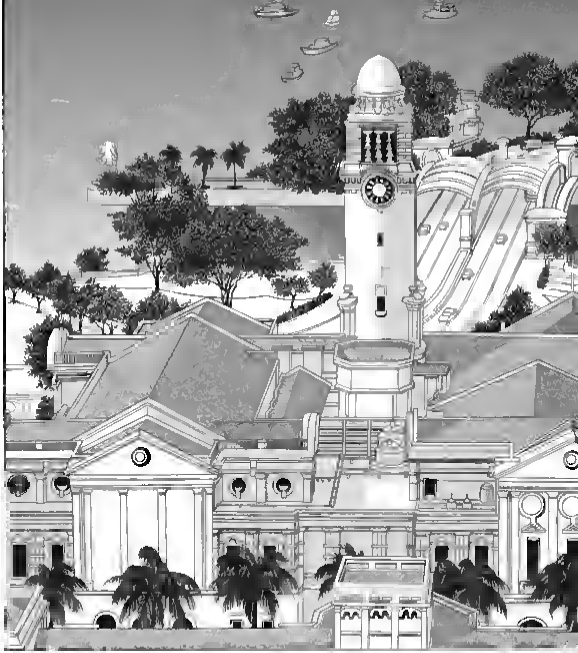
Act two 136

Act One

I WON'T HESITATE.
I'LL HOLD YOU BECAUSE I LOVE YOU.
I'LL LET YOU HOLD ME BECAUSE I LOVE YOU.
I'LL FEEL YOU THROUGHOUT MY WHOLE BODY.

ALL THAT MATTERS IS THAT MOMENT
WHEN OUR HEARTS BEAT AS ONE.
I WANT TO BE WITH YOU NIGHT AND DAY.

I DON'T CARE IF THAT'S LUST



SINGAPORE

I just got to my mom's.
Hot? Yeah, it's boiling. It's like summer all year here.
What about there?
I miss you already

What our last time together wasn't enough for you?

Ken honey your room s all set!
STARTLE
Ken?
Sorry I gotta go
Gonna go hang with my mom
Good night, Ritsuro
CLICK

SO THIS IS THE GUY MOM MARRIED?
A FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER WHO'S EIGHT YEARS YOUNGER THAN SHE IS.
SHUT
Did you talk to Mr. Tsuzuki?
When will he be home?
Should be soon. He's on a train somewhere in Malaysia now.
Don't you miss him?
I'm getting used to it.

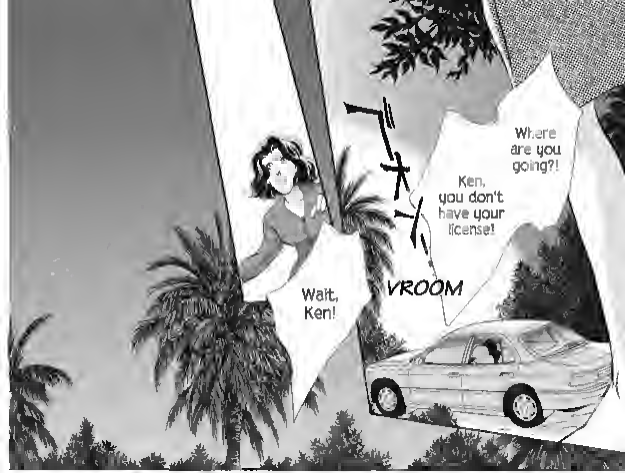
Hm
Ken
Huh?
I was wondering, are *you* missing someone right now?

Of course you must be
What? What're you getting at?
I don't want to upset you
Mom?
But.... another boy.... it's just not right.
It's not *right* Ken honey

How do you...? Did you see us in the hospital?!
It's all *my* fault, isn't it?
Did you research this or what?
It's all my fault, it *must* be...
It's *my* fault for leaving you all alone!
NOW?
Ken
You're pulling this *now*?

I didn't come to *fight* with you!
I didn't come here to drag up the past.
SLAM
Ken!

Ken may not look like much, but he takes clients.
Women and men.
You're used to this I see
JINGLE


Where are you going?!
Ken, you don't have your license!
VROOM
Wait, Ken!

Protest all you like but your body tells the true story

Yeah, you want more don't you?
Dammit!
I don't wanna remember
I came here to forget!
RITSUKO...
VROOM

SQUEAL
SQUEAL
AHH!
WHAM!

What?
Why so upset? Dad's been working overseas for two years, and he's finally coming home!
Did you do something bad?
Aagh!
Dad's coming home?!
CHIRP
CHIRP
Bingo.
Is it about Ken?
Nami!

Knock it off!
Ken's a nice guy, but... I've heard bad things about him
Mom's worried too
I'm not doing anything bad...
Don't disappoint Dad
Ken's my best friend!

I'M SORRY, KEN...
MY "BEST FRIEND"...
Are you all right?!

Uggh
Hey! You're bleeding!
Lemme see.
Ouch!
LICK

Oh, sorry. I couldn't help myself.
STARTLE
Help yourself?
Luckily the wound's not as deep as it looks.
SLAM
Hang on to me!

Let's get you to the hospital.
I'll take you in my car.
STARE
GRAB
Here we go
SMILE
Let's go
HE LOOKS LIKE RITSURO.
HUH?
TH THUMP

VROOM
In this country there's a fine for littering!
You'd be in big trouble if they found out you were driving without a license
We just met, right? Did I even tell you my name?
You have a Kansai accent. You from Osaka?
I'm from Tokyo.
Ken Amafuji. It's been a real experience already

But let's get some breakfast first...
Ah
I saw your name at the hospital
GRIP
I'll take you home.
TH THUMP
What?
All my friends here call me J
You can call me that too
J? That's stupid
J like the letter
Hey that's creepy! You snuck a look at my name and you haven't told me yours

SMILE
SMILE

Oh my cut!
Ow ow ow.
Which one?
SHIVER
Turn around.
SMILE
LICK
You're cute Ken.

I'd hate to never see you again
Everyone sounds cheesy when they talk about their feelings
GIGGLE
RUB
RUB
Do you have to be so cheesy?
About another guy?
Can I photo-graph you?
About *you* Ken

CLICK
Huh?
CLICK
J?!

Junta Tsuzuki
CLICK
SIGMA
Junta
That's what the "J" stands for.

OH—
J·TSUZUKI
What are you two—?
I'm home Shoko
NO ONE'S CALLED MOM "SHOKO" IN AGES.
We met by "accident," but I knew him right away. You've shown me so many photos I've practically started dreaming about him.

I came home early because I couldn't wait to see Ken
I remembered how serious you were about bringing him back with you
I thought you'd just gotten lost in your work as usual I didn't expect you home so early
Well? Cat got your tongue?
Ken had no idea it was me so I took a chance on becoming friends!
Hahaha
It's kind of sad but that's what I usually look like after a three week photo session.
Mr Tsuzuki
I usually just come home that way
But I couldn't meet you like *that* right?
THIS GUY'S MY STEPFATHER?!
Call me J.
MY STEPFATHER...

Shoko!
Let's all go to Sentosa Island tomorrow!
Oh, but first we have to go get the car.
The car?
WHEN HE SMILES HE LOOKS LIKE RITSURO
IT WASN'T JUST MY IMAGINATION.
I think I get it now— how Mom could leave a rich guy like Kazuyoshi's dad.
—to be with a photographer who's eight years younger than she is.
I just didn't get it before.

I'm your *son* and I forgot your first name...
...and your smile.
Ken?
You got it back.
What J is to you...
...is what Ritsuro is to me.
You found someone you could love and trust...

Mom
...
You felt like you could start all over again with him right?
Oh, Ken...

If you believe that you'll be able to make Ritsuro happy...
...then you have my blessing
...THEN I CAN START ALL OVER AGAIN
WHEN I BELIEVE I CAN MAKE HIM HAPPY...

TRRRRR
RIING
RIING
TRRRRR
TRR
RII-
Hello?
Tsuzuki here. Ken?
Are you a friend of Ken's?
Aah!
JI
Give it to me!
HE TOLD ME "J" WAS HIS STEPDAD'S NICKNAME.
KEN HAD BEEN IN SINGAPORE FOR A WEEK.
Hello? Ritsuro?

You can keep this.
CLACK
Hey, Ken. We should go on a trip together sometime.
AND...
CHUCKLE
Hello? Ken? You there?
Uh, yeah
Huh?
FAR AWAY AS I WAS, I COULD TELL THINGS WERE GOING WELL WITH HIS NEW FAMILY
Exams start the day after tomorrow?

Right?
You'll be fine. You'll ace them without even trying
I'll be back after your exams.
You can do it...
...Ritsuro.

KEN...

OSAKA

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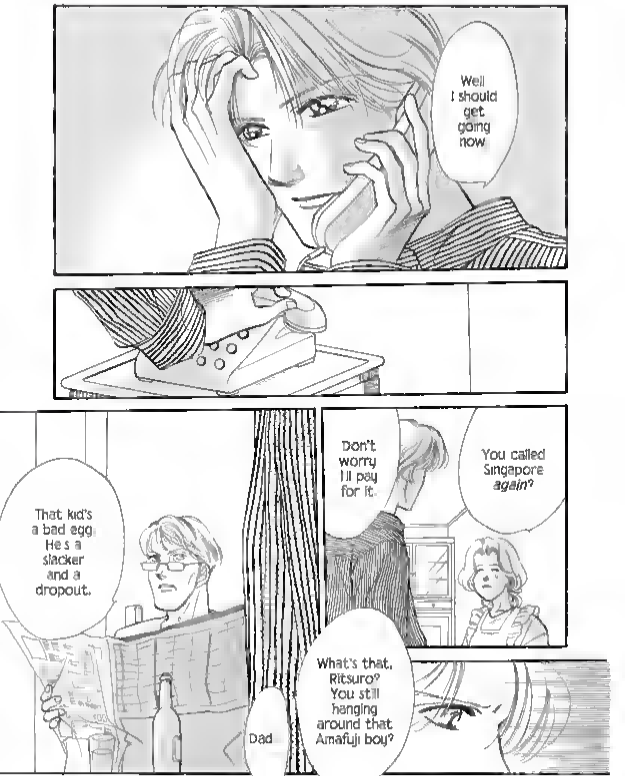

Well I should get going now.
You called Singapore *again*?
Don't worry I'll pay for it.
That kid's a bad egg. He's a slacker and a dropout.
What's that, Ritsuro? You still hanging around that Amafuji boy?
Dad

You're telling me not to see Ken anymore?! He's my best friend!
You've got entrance exams This is an important time for you.
Don't you get it Ritsuro?
Live your life the way you're supposed to!
Ritsuro.
Not much of a best friend if he's dragging you down *with* him, is he?
Ken's not dragging me–
You're going to college. *He's* a dropout

HOW CAN I EVER MAKE THEM UNDERSTAND?
I CAN ONLY TELL PEOPLE YOU'RE MY BEST FRIEND
KEN, I...
Library
HOW CAN I...?!

BRUSH
Ritsuro.
Ken?

Sorry I'm not Ken
HUH?
CLATTER
IWASAKI?!
"Ritsuro."
Hey, wait!
...Am I imagining things?
Ritsuro.

Library
You can call me "Kazuyoshi"
Huh?
Iwasaki..
Can I call you that?
OK, so...
Exams start tomorrow
From now on you've got to face reality You can't sit around dreaming
Right?
REALITY?

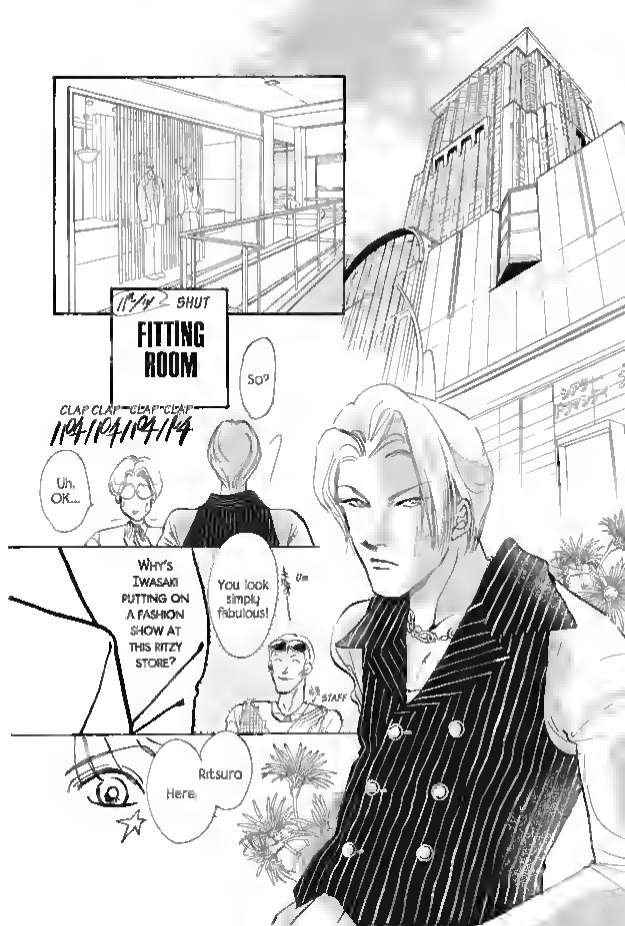
Reality — keeps interfering.
The reality is that sometimes "I love you" doesn't fix everything.
Exakta
Where did you want to go?

India
India?
Yeah

India.
Of course cities like Delhi and Agra are nice but I was thinking about somewhere out in the countryside
The kids may be poor there but their eyes shine That's what I want to photograph.
I want *you* to come
Ken

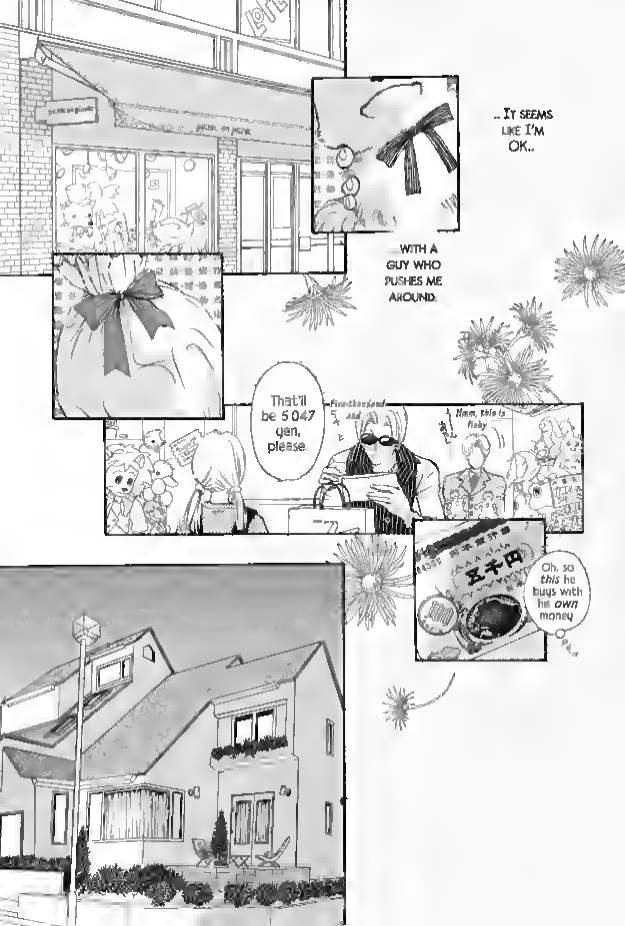
Let's go, Ritsuro!
Huh?
EXAMS ARE OVER!
We're done!
SENIOR CLASS 7

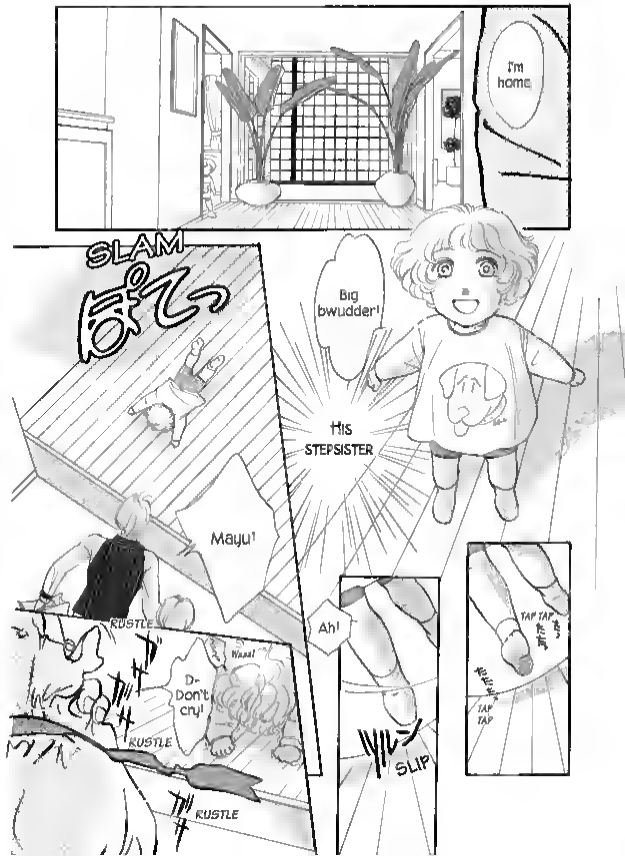
IWASAKI AND I NEVER GOT ALONG, BUT SINCE THE SCHOOL TRIP, HE'S BEEN REALLY CLINGY
GRAB
Ah
LOOM
ずずずっと
Why are we going to the city?
KATTLE
KATTLE
What's it matter? Exams are over. Let's go shopping
KATTLE
Well
Where are you taking me?
KATTLE
SHOPPING?


SHUT
FITTING ROOM
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
So?
Uh, OK...
WHY'S IWASAKI PUTTING ON A FASHION SHOW AT THIS RITZY STORE?
You look simply fabulous!
Um
STAFF
Ritsuro Here

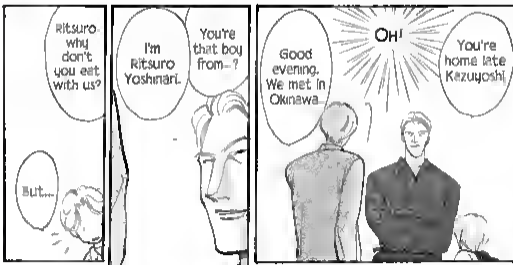
WHAT?
Try this on
!!HA!
SLAM
FITTING ROOM
Ack!
It's a pain to lug them around
WHAT'S HIS DEAL?
Come again? ♡
Yes, sir! We always appreciate your business!
Charge it to my dad as usual
WHAT'S GOING ON?
H-HEY, IWASAKI! YOU DON'T NEED TO BUY ME ANYTHING!
Who said I was buying you anything?
So, you can wear them OK?
Those are for me!
CAFE

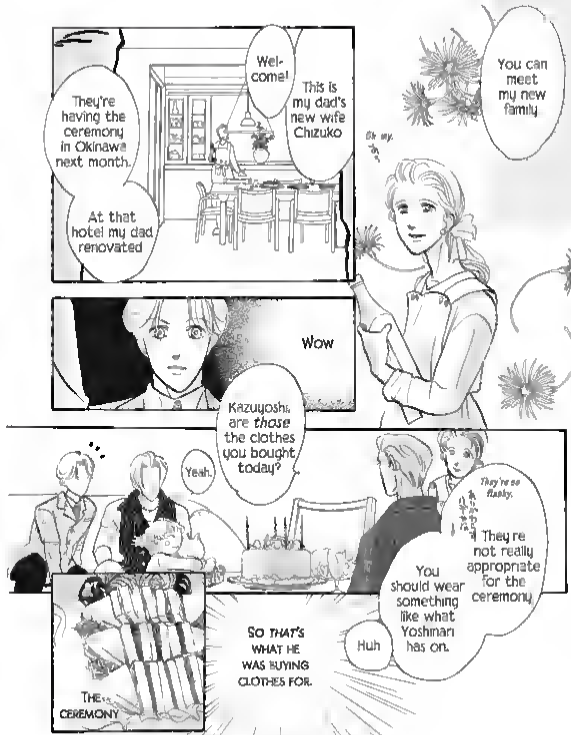
He's so full of himself.
Man, what a spoiled brat!
Right. Let's eat lunch.
My Dad'll just charge it to his expense account at work.
Money? I don't worry 'bout it
You look good!
Ugh
But
Their uniforms are in here
loft
.. whether it's him or Ken


..It seems like I'm OK..
...with a guy who pushes me around.
That'll be 5 047 yen, please.
Five thousand and
Hmm, this is kinky
五千円
Oh, so this he buys with his own money


I'm home
SLAM
ぽてっ
Big bwudder!
His STEPSISTER
Mayu!
RUSTLE
Waaa!
D-Don't cry!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
Ah!
SLIP
TAP TAP
TAP TAP

Here!
Happy Birthday, Mayu!
I'm four now!
にぱっ
GRIN
SQUEEZE
Wow, he's such a schmoop
Yes you are!
There, there


Ritsuro, why don't you eat with us?
But...
I'm Ritsuro Yoshinari.
You're that boy from--?
Good evening. We met in Okinawa.
OH!
You're home late Kazuyoshi


Wel-come!
This is my dad's new wife Chizuko
They're having the ceremony in Okinawa next month.
At that hotel my dad renovated
Oh my.
You can meet my new family.
Wow
Kazuyoshi, are those the clothes you bought today?
Yeah.
They're so flashy.
They're not really appropriate for the ceremony.
You should wear something like what Yoshinari has on.
Huh
SO THAT'S WHAT HE WAS BUYING CLOTHES FOR.
THE... CEREMONY

But...
Congrat-
ulations
Iwasaki
It's not
like I'm
getting
married
...it is
thanks
to you.

—that you didn't want to hate me that you wanted to understand me—
If you hadn't said then
That's what woke me up
Thanks Ritsuro
Iwasaki
Oh.
Call me Kazuyoshi.
"Iwasaki" huh?
Nah

Well then Kazuyoshi
I'll give you back these clothes before they get wrinkled
Oh! Oh uh
You don't have to give them back today
Of course I do
TH-THUMP
Um
I-I'll go over there
Huh?
RUSTLE
WHAT'S HE BLUSHING ABOUT?

Oh um. the day after tomorrow
When's Ken coming home?
The day after tomorrow huh?
I'd like to see him- if he's OK with that.
I'M OK TOO.
KAZUYOSHI.
It'll be OK.
—and apologize for *real*
I wanna see him

WITH THE WAY YOU'RE OPENING UP

Great!
How was Singapore?
AL AIRPORT
Tell me all about it!
204
KEN AMAFUJI
Aren't you forgetting something? Hmm?

TA-DAH!
ちゃん♪
Hey I wanna show you something.
And *now* I'll tell you all about it!
SLIDE
What a thick face for!
No more kissing?!

My stepdad Junta Tsuzuki
Oh, I GET IT!
It's a classic German camera called an Exakta Varex.
J gave it to me.
J?
Wow
He's a famous photographer. He's in all kinds of magazines.
Look, he even has a book of photos published!
I'm giving this one to you as a souvenir.
Children's Smile

J is teaching me all about photography
J photographed the kids while he was working as a Children's Rescue volunteer
He's such a great guy!
Wow...
KEN...
Aren't they great?
I can even develop film by myself!
YOUR EYES SHINE...
...JUST LIKE THE EYES OF THE KIDS IN THESE PICTURES.
Ken...
That's so great!

Ritsuro
I WANT TO MAKE LOVE TO YOU!
KEN...
... about what I can do to make Ritsuro Yoshinari happy
Sometimes I think really hard ...

Mm
You want it?
...INSIDE ME.
I WANT TO HOLD YOU.
No.
FLOP
Don't tease me.

PUSH
Nnn!

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Mmm
GRASP
TUG
JOLT
Oh
WHUNK
FLUMP
FLUMP
FLUMP

WHUMP
Ha ha ha!
Again...
Ken...
When I learn how to use it right...
the first picture I take is gonna be of you
So...
FLOP

SHUT
DRIP
DRIP
WOOSH
WOOSH
WOOSH
WOOSH
Oh no rain?!
I don't have an umbrella!
Michiru you're the best!
I'll go get it.
I've got one in my locker!

You can use mine..
No thanks.
Kobashi.
I don't blame you if you hate me A teacher falling for his student?
I'm the worst. I don't *deserve* to be a teacher
I'm sorry
Wait!

SPLASH
SPLASH
Mr. Yu-
Mr. Yumioka!
Michiru
So something did happen
I don't like Mr Yumioka I-
but you hid it from me!
PINCH
It's not fair Moeko!
You have Yoshinari!

WOOSH
WOOSH
WOOSH
How could you keep something like that from me?!
Ding Dong
Ding Dong
Ding Dong
Ding Dong
Ding Dong
Huh Maybe he's out
In this rain!
KA-CHAK
It's raining. Let's go in and wait.
Is it OK if I come in, too?

Don't worry Ken won't throw you out.
...
You idiot you'll catch a cold!
I'm gonna wait outside
This isn't right.
SHUT
Here's a towel.
Thanks
Coffee?
Yeah that's fine.
I guess the rainy season's starting
Make yourself at home Sit down
THUNK

So, do you know where you're going to college?
THUMP
Huh? Oh.
Nah.
I was kinda thinking about doing the architect thing.
Architect? Are you gonna take over your dad's business?
That's for my dad to decide. But I thought I might help out or something.
Your dad would love that
I guess.
What about you?

I'm kind of jealous
HEH
My dad's just a businessman.
So there's nothing to take over
Me?
Sorry. I didn't mean to be a jerk.
Oh. no
Um.
Huh?

I don't know... I'm not sure if I *can*
KAZUYOSHI?
Why? If you don't see Ken *now*
...when are you gonna get this worked out?
S-Sorry. I'm gonna go
I'll talk to Ken *for* you
No
KAZUYOSHI?
I, I'm so.
I'm just a hopeless punk
Huh?
That's not what I meant.

The other day I made you wear my clothes.
I had it all planned out
What?
So you'd have to change into your uniform at my house...
...and take off your clothes in front of me
But you were so clueless
...I couldn't do anything so I just let you go home
You're kidding right?
THAT'S HOW YOU SEE ME?

I shouldn't have said anything.
Kazuyoshi?!
Lemme go!
Stop this isn't funny!
No, it's *not* funny
I love you!

I want you.
He's so honest
He looks like he's in pain..
I don't know if I can stop myself
Kazu

WOOSH
I CAN'T DO THIS.
It's *your* fault for not letting me go
WOOSH
SLIDE
INDIA
ISHINO BOOKS
Tel. 999-223

Of course you're not sure yet.
Well just think it over.
ワールドガイド
WORLD GUIDE
インド
INDIA
You've got lots of time
I'm planning to go during the dry season in October
I...

Mm
SQUEEZE

JOLT
Sto-
Stop!
SHOVE
WOOOO
RATTLE

THUNK
SHUT
Man you're disgusting
What are you a bitch in heat?
I'm going home

I...
We were only kissing, and it made me so hot.
Disgusting
My body is betraying Ken.
I'm so hard
I'm betraying him so badly...

Kazu-yoshi?!
SPLASH

I'M SUCH A HORRIBLE PERSON.

Kazu-
yoshi?

I have to– apologize to you about something.
What happened?
Huh?
I'm sorry. I–
Don't just stay out here in the rain. C'mon.
You dumbass. That wound healed ages ago

SPLASH
I'm going home
Kazu-yoshi?
Kazu-
SPLASH
SPLASH
CLICK
Ritsuro?

WOOSH
WOOSH
Ken.
Noth ing
CLINK
Hey
What happened, Ritsuro?

Why?
Was someone here?
Never mind I just thought
KEN?
THUMP
SWOOSH
Ken?
GRAB

K-
Ken?
What's gotten into you?
I need you now
Is that OK?

Of course. But...
Ken.
FLUMP
Hey, Ken.
Oh...
KEN!

Sto-
WHY
DRAG
NO

WHY AM I...
...THINKING ABOUT KAZUYOSHI RIGHT NOW?

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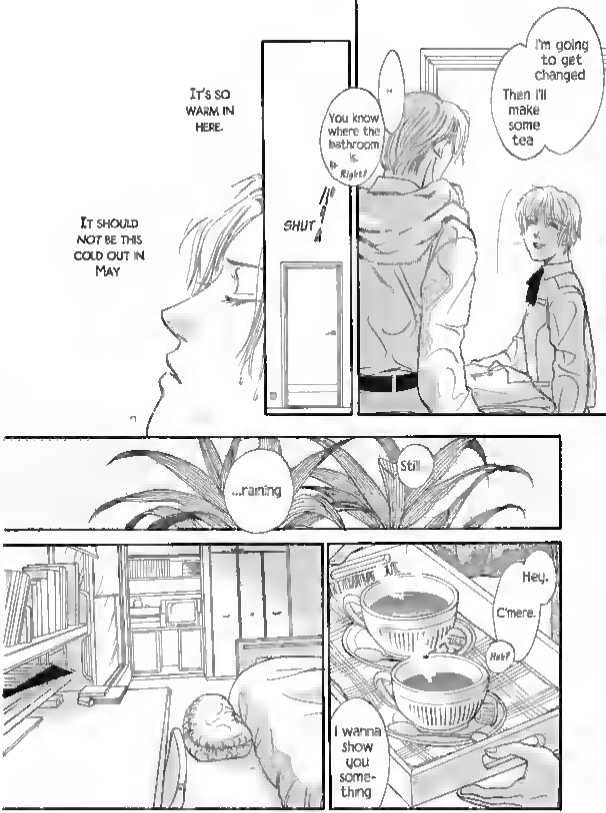
I CAN'T...
You're not gonna stay over?
KEN WILL NOTICE.
I CAN'T
Take an umbrella then It's still raining
OK.
Ooh...

IT HURTS.
IT'S LIKE NEEDLES FALLING DOWN FROM HEAVEN...
...AND PIERCING MY HEART

SPLASH
SPLASH
Ritsuro?
What are you doing out in this rain?
Moeko..

I could ask *you* the same question.
Then why aren't you using it?
PING
PING
Oh it's all right I've got an umbrella
You're soaked too
PANT
PANT
Yeah, same here.
I kinda—
We can't go into a cafe like *this*
Hey, wanna come to my house?

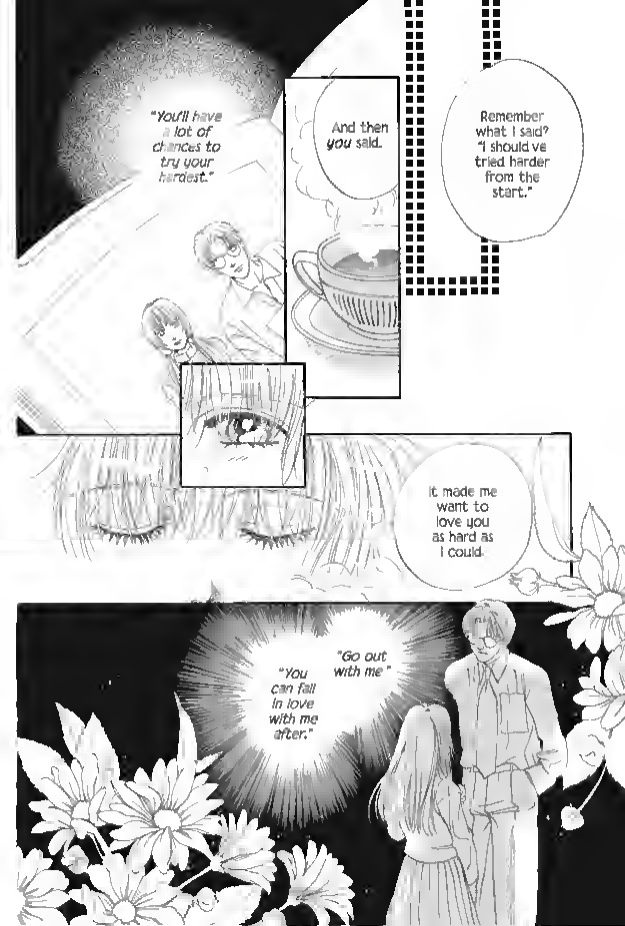
I didn't want to go back there.
But more than anything, I didn't want to be alone.
Nobody's home?
KOBASHI
Mom's teaching an embroidery class today. She should be home soon
Here
You can wear one of my dad's.
I'll put your shirt in the dryer.
Maeko

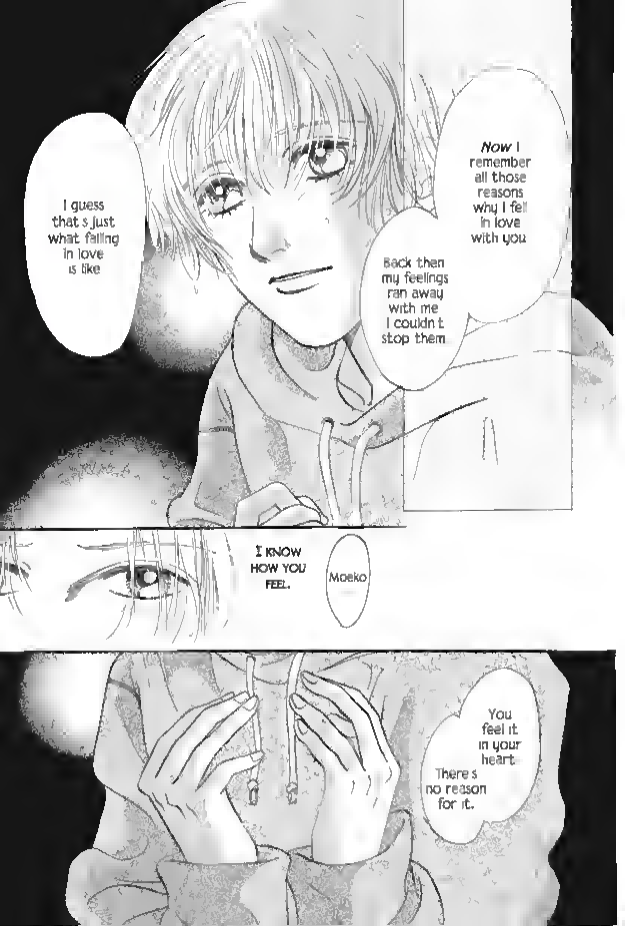

It's so warm in here.
It should not be this cold out in May
SHUT
You know where the bathroom is.
Right?
I'm going to get changed
Then I'll make some tea
...raining
Still
I wanna show you some-thing
Hey.
C'mere.
Huh?

From freshman year. You know when we went to Hiroshima for that field trip.
A photo album? From when?
Do you remember?
Huh?
FLIP
Oh yeah
This was when we first met.
Spring of freshman year. You were the class representative, and I was just a girl who didn't fit in.

I thought it was stupid so I wasn't trying to row at all
And there you were sweating like crazy rowing for both of us.
GIGGLE
MOEKO
You were next to me
I think it was during the boating activity. We had to split into boy-girl pairs and row together.
Look!
This is from the class race
I wonder who took this picture?
When I looked at your face I had to start rowing too

Haha.
I got a blister on my palm and my arms were killing me
And to top it all off we came in second to last place!
But it was a lot of fun
I felt *great*
I'D FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT THAT


"You'll have a lot of chances to try your hardest."
And then you said.
Remember what I said? "I should've tried harder from the start."
It made me want to love you as hard as I could.
"Go out with me"
"You can fall in love with me after."


I guess that's just what falling in love is like
Back then my feelings ran away with me I couldn't stop them
Now I remember all those reasons why I fell in love with you
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL.
Maeko
There's no reason for it.
You feel it in your heart

I COULDN'T LOVE YOU THAT WAY
...make you want to love them with every fiber of your being
You feel it when you look in their eyes
I know what you mean
Their every word and gesture. .
Did Ken make you feel like that?
HE DID.

He made me want to love him as hard as I could.
It's too bad if I were a guy I'd steal you from Ken
You look so pretty Ritsuro.
Huh?

This is a good luck charm
So you'll be happy

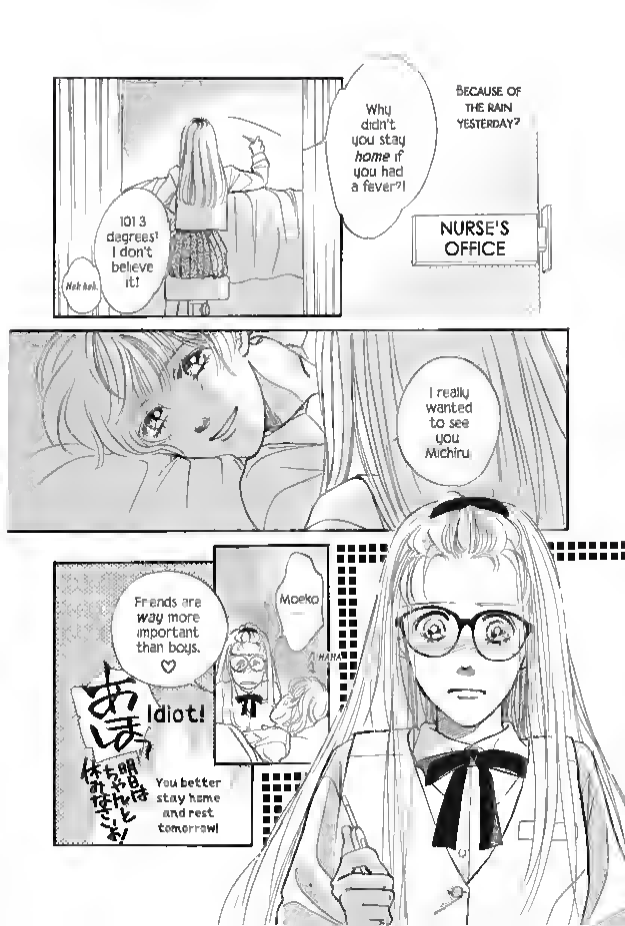
HER LIPS ONLY BRUSHED MINE.
MY THIRD KISS OF THE DAY, AND THE PUREST.
CLEAR, LIKE THE DROPLETS OF WATER FALLING FROM HER WET BANGS.
CLEAR AND BEAUTIFUL.

It's over.
I loved my hardest.
BEEP
BEEP
Is this the Kubota residence? This is Moeko
Michiru? Michiru, it's you, isn't it? Wait, don't hang up I want to talk to you
I'm sorry. I think I can tell you all about it now.
Please listen to me...
Listen...

SENIOR CLASS 7

Time for attendance.

Kazuyoshi Iwasaki.


Why didn't you stay *home* if you had a fever?!
BECAUSE OF THE RAIN YESTERDAY?
NURSE'S OFFICE
101.3 degrees! I don't believe it!
Heh heh.
I really wanted to see you Michiru
Moeko
Friends are *way* more important than boys. ♡
Idiot!
You better stay home and rest tomorrow!

That thing with Kazuyoshi was a mistake.

Why am I so worried about him?

I care about *Ken*

Hey.
Wanna go to the park?
Oh, it just seems cool
Why India Ken?
The park?

Maybe I'll try posing
CLICK
Oh yeah
CLICK
Can you really take a good picture of me?
CLICK
Lookin' good!
This turn you on?
CLICK
I WANT TO LOVE KEN AS HARD AS I CAN.
THAT'S NOT A LIE.

Roll call!
So Iwasaki's absent
Yoshinari?
Oh-
FLUTTER
POST GRADUATION PLANS
NAME
1st CHOICE
2nd CHOICE
3rd CHOICE
See how he's doing
You're friends with Iwasaki right? It's important he get this Could you bring it to his house?
Huh?
CLATTER
Yes?

DOOM
Could you do that for me?
Really bites
Uh sure
Thanks.
Um it's just, today's
POST GRADUATION PLANS?
POST GRADUATION PLANS
1ST CHOICE
WHAT CAN I SAY TO HIM?
No good?
No
Kobashi's home sick, too. I'm worried
Apparently he's got a 102 degree fever

Ken?
Ritsuro!
102 DEGREES?
I've been waiting!
I found a place with the most beautiful hydrangeas!
Let's go!
It's really close by!
GRAB

Wow, it must be from all the rain.
Take off your glasses and tie.
Huh?
And unbutton your shirt a little.
Uh, OK...

Hey, do you know what hydrangeas symbolize?
What?
Fickleness.
Ken?
Hey, with everything so wet.
That's why.
You know because hydrangeas change color

...it'll look better if you give me some angst.
I—
204
KEN AMA
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH, SO—

Huh?
Welcome back.
What?!
I was in the area
Are you sorry I came?
Of course not!
I've been *dying* to see you
STEP
Huh?

J!
J? This is Ken's stepdad?!
His stepfather looks more like an older brother. This young guy is his new dad?!
Why didn't you tell me you were coming?!
I just decided last night
Is this a friend of yours?

Nice to meet you. I'm Ken's stepfather Junta Tsuzuki.
"OH YEAH?" THAT'S ALL?
TH THUMP
Oh yeah?
Huh?
He's my boy friend
Ritsuro Yoshinari
Ken talked about you a lot in Singapore
Jeez sorry Ritsuro J.s like this with everyone.
I don't get these artistic types.
GRIN
You have beautiful eyes.
Calm and gentle, like the ocean

Deux
Love Frequency
Live Prisoner
I Shall Never Return
3
Kazuna Uchida
EXPLICIT CONTENT

Oh uh...
India? What's with you and India lately?
INDIA? THINK WHAT OVER?
I put them in an album for you, so you can think things over.
These are some photos I took in India before
Oh yeah. Ken I brought you something
Ken?
I might... go there with J-

I asked him to come with me.
Ritsuro, wait!
I was going to tell you. We can talk about it now I guess.
J- you've got time right? C'mon !-
I wanted Ken to see it, to see the things I've seen.
†HYDRANGEAS SYMBOLIZE FICKLENESS.
You must know that better than anyone.
I think he needs to know that.
I wanted to show him that the world is bigger than he thinks.

BUT...
Itsuro?!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WANTED TO CHANGE...
BUT...
I'm sorry I'm just...

DON'T LEAVE ME.
Um, how is Kazu-yoshi doing?
IWASAKI
Ritsuro?
I...
Come on in
I DON'T THINK I CAN DO IT
I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT THE WARMTH OF ANOTHER PERSON.

AND THAT REALLY SCARES ME.
Ritsuro?

ACT TWO

I didn't think...
...you'd come to see me
KAZUYOSHI

Your hand is so hot.
Are you all right?
I'm better now.

Ritsuro?
TO CHEAT ON KEN?
IS THAT WHY?
WHY DID I COME HERE?
Oh...
HE'S GOING TO LEAVE ME ALONE AGAIN.
I might... go there with J.

I know you're with Ken.
I'm not trying to make you mine
KAZUYOSHI...
I know that you don't feel the same way about me but...
Ritsuro
Sometimes I think really hard...

KEN...
...about what I can do to make Ritsuro Yoshinari happy.
Sorry that's not why I came
I was worried because I heard you were sick.
Huh?
RUSTLE
This is from school. We have to think about what we're going to do after graduation
I brought this paper for you
GRIP

WHAP
Ow!
Kazu-yoshi—
Kazu-yoshi!
If you're just gonna run away, don't come in the first place!
Don't talk to me!
Ka—
Why don't you figure out how *you* feel?!
If I didn't have a fever, I'd rape you!

Go home
FIGURE OUT?
Kazu-yoshi
Look after your big brother 'kay?

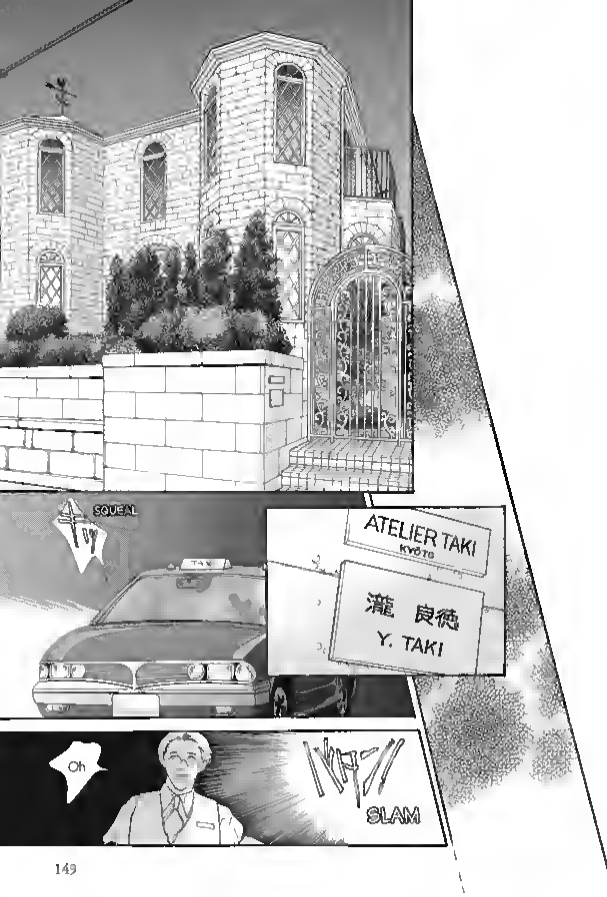
Maybe we should go another time.
What?
Right now Ritsuro's more important to you than India isn't he?

I can see it on your face
I want to...
It doesn't *have* to be India. Just let me know when you're ready.
We can go to whatever country we want, then.
No
I want to go *now*
Right now all I do is depend on Ritsuro for everything I want to change I *need* to
I *thought* Ritsuro understood that.
I still think he does.

RING
RING
TRR
TRR
TRR
TRR
Ken
Oh the phone it must be Mom
CLICK
Hello Amafuji residence. Huh?
Oh
Tsuzuki? Yeah he's here
Give it to me

Sensei?
Did something happen to Sensei?!
J?!
SLAM
Hey!
I gave them your number in case something happened
Huh?
J!
What is it?!

BEEP
Wait!
J!
EEE
Care about?
J?!
It's not looking good for someone I care about.

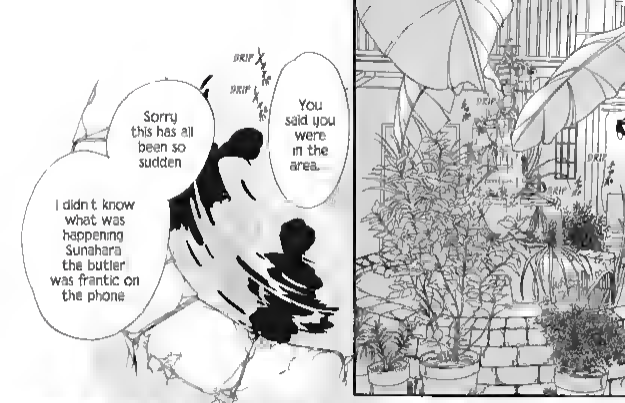

SQUEAL
TAXI
ATELIER TAKI
KYOTO
瀧 良徳
Y. TAKI
Oh
SLAM

Master Jun, please wait
How is he? How's Sensei?
Sensei!

Jun?
Thank God
I'm right here.
Don't worry.
I'm sorry, but, could you leave us alone?
It's OK
I won't leave you

Excuse me, are you...?
I hope he's gonna be OK.
You must be Master Jun's stepson.
Yeah.
Yoshinori Taki is Master Jun's father.
Huh?

Well he was never officially adopted, so that may not be entirely the right word.
But Master Taki always introduced Master Jun as his son, so I've always thought of him that way.
But I called him "Sensei."
Yes
Yoshinori Taki is a very famous photographer. Master Jun left his parents at 15 to become one of Master Taki's apprentices
Didn't he tell you anything about it?

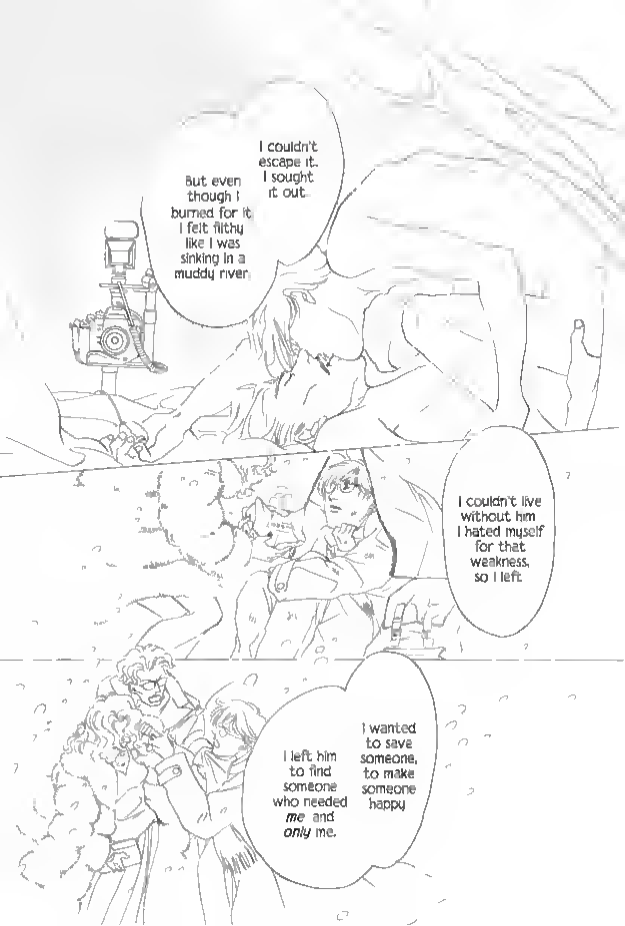

DRIP
DRIP
You said you were in the area...
Sorry this has all been so sudden
I didn't know what was happening Sunahara the butler was frantic on the phone
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP

I thought I was prepared. but...
The sedative's kicked in, so he's asleep now
He's only 52, but he has advanced lung cancer and he doesn't have much longer

Well.
...where do I even begin?

We're family now, we shouldn't keep things from each other. After all...
Don't I?
You don't have to talk about it if you don't want to
How much did Sunahara tell you?
you told me about Ritsuro
But
Have you guessed?

You see.
I loved him Sensei
His work.
...his heart
...and his body


I couldn't escape it. I sought it out.
But even though I burned for it, I felt filthy like I was sinking in a muddy river.
I couldn't live without him. I hated myself for that weakness, so I left.
I wanted to save someone, to make someone happy.
I left him to find someone who needed *me* and *only* me.

To find true love
OK
It's OK
You don't have to say it.
I get it now
I understand

SENIOR CLASS 7
BADA
BADA
BADA
FRAFA
TH-
THUMP

KAZUYOSHI?
DING DONG
BABA
BABA
DING DONG
DING DONG
ARE YOU REALLY FINE?
YOU HAD A HIGH FEVER YESTERDAY
S-sh- Ignoring him.
DING DONG
This is from Moeko
Kubota?
Huh? Where is she?
Her cold came back so she stayed home.
DING DONG
DING DONG
Yoshi-nari.

Deux
Love Frequency
Live Prisoner
I Shall Never Return
3
Kazuna Uchida
EXPLICIT CONTENT

Is she OK?
She's fine
Let me worry about Moeko.
Later!
What were you grinning about?
Later?
Huh?
RIP
Thanks for the treat!
-Moeko
Moeko
This is a good luck charm.

SLAM
Good luck, hun?
All right now Everyone got their post graduation paper?
Huh?
!
NAME Kazuyoshi Iwasaki
POST GRADUATION PLANS
1ST CHOICE Tokyo University Architecture Dept.
2ND CHOICE N/A
3RD CHOICE N/A
Today?!
Tokyo University?!
He's trying for Tokyo University?!
Why don't you see what I can do before you say that?!
Don't you think you should at least have a safety net?
First off no one from our school EVER gets in there!
GLARE

WHAT'S HE THINKING?
OK Come to the office after school
Damn
GLANCE
KAZUYOSHI?
TEACHERS OFFICE
A joke like this isn't really funny now
WHISPER
WHISPER
WHISPER
That delinquent? At Todai?
WHISPER
I was his teacher for freshman year. Never mind his grades, he had so many unexcused absences that he barely passed!

Here You've still got time Think it over
POST GRADUATION PLANS
CHOICE
CHOICE
Hey!
RIP RIP
RIP
Iwa-Iwasaki —!
NOIII
The school will be closing in ten minutes. Any students remaining on the grounds must.
How long are you gonna keep this up?
TAP
I told you not to talk to me

Kazu-yoshi ...
Did you wait for me?
Well
You know what's coming right?
FLINCH
Wha—?
TREMBLE

You should worry about yourself
You still have a fever!
Shut up!
You idiot, you're still sick!
GRAB
HE'S BURNING UP!

Kā-
KAZUYOSHI?!
CLATTER

Master Jun!
Master Taki has...
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
SLAM
Sensei!

Jun is that you?
I can't... tell you
I was so happy
Just being with you
I hurt you...
I'm sorry.

Do you remember?
When I was 15, and I'd just come to live with you.
You took me abroad for the first time. to India
THE HUSTLE AND EXCITEMENT.
THE FIERCE SUN.
THE HEAT.
IT WAS SO HUMID.
In less than a week I collapsed from the heat and sheer nerves. You nursed me the whole time.
I was delirious with fever but whenever I opened my eyes, you were there beside me watching me That helped me more than any medicine

I knew then that I couldn't live without you
I admitted it freely. And...
SQUEEZE
...how to see people through a camera lens. How to see the lives they live on this planet.
Watching you as I walked behind you, I learned...
And that you and I were part of it all
Please live Sensei.

Without you I wouldn't be who I am today
I'll stay with you
Thank you...
Everyone is... born to make... someone... happy...
SLIP
Sensei...!

Sensei!!
I know
Idiot!

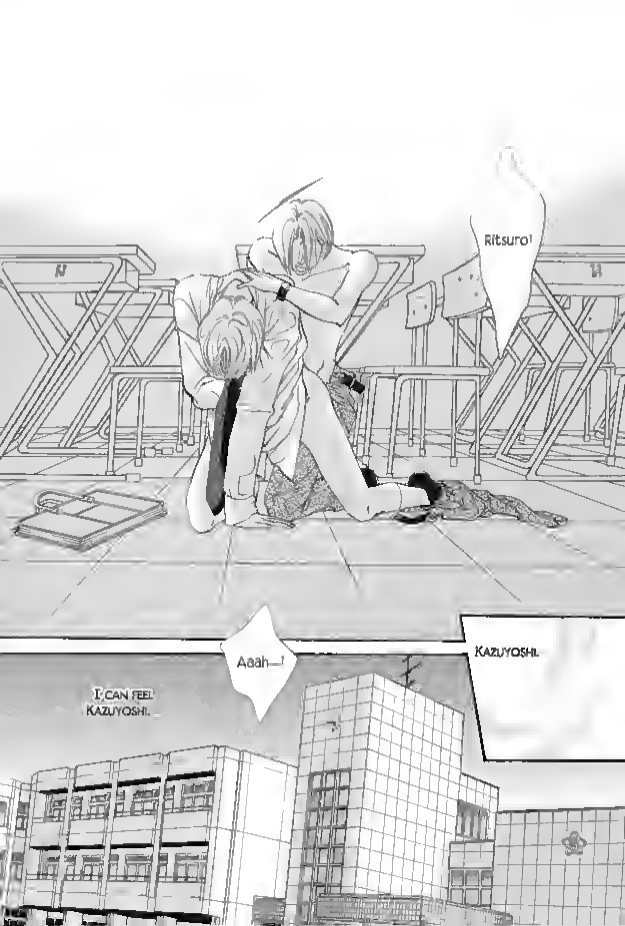
CLINK
CLINK
Are you—?
HERE?
Shh
Get down

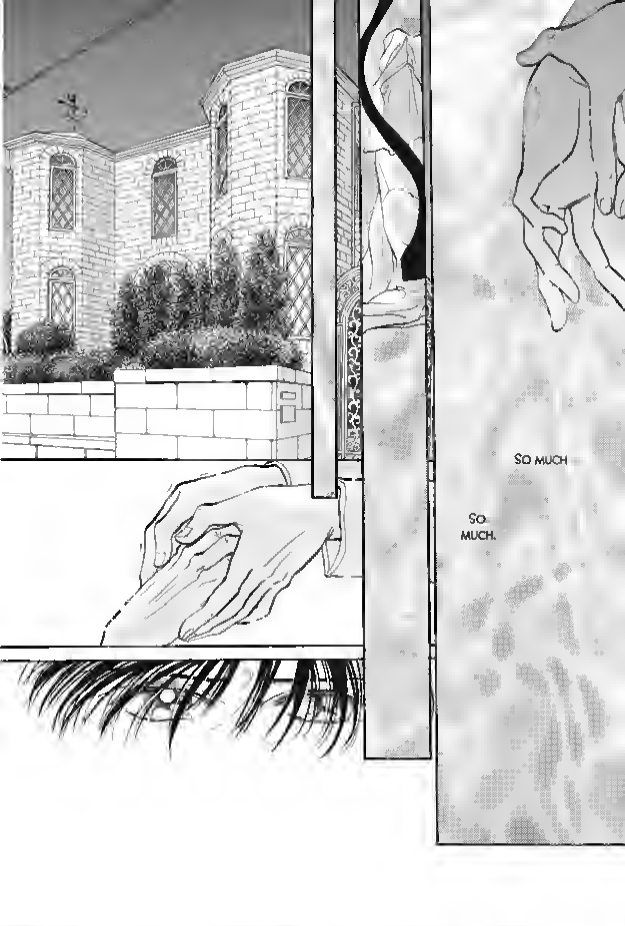
SHUT UP
Gonna run.
I thought I heard someone.
If you're gonna scream, now's the time.
Me or you?
You idiot

FLINCH
I FEEL SO WEAK
I CAN'T MOVE.
I know you're feelin' it.
See?
Stop
I CAN'T...
Sto-
I *know* how *I* feel!

STOP ME
SOMEBODY STOP THIS.
I burn for you... like I might die.
Ritsuro!
GRAB
Oh!
THIS...
THIS SHOULDN'T BE HAPPENING!

WHY...?
GRIP
WHY AM I.?
Nnn..
You OK?
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT


Ritsuro!
Aaah—!
I CAN FEEL KAZUYOSHI.
KAZUYOSHI.


SO MUCH
SO.
MUCH.

WOOSH
THERE'S A SAD ECHO IN MY HEAD

SENIOR CLASS 7
I won't let you go
...let you go.
Let's live together.
Forget everything that's happened and start a new life
...live together
We'll live in Tokyo and go to Todai together
Huh?
I'll do anything for you
I'll make you happy
Love me
KAZUYOSHI

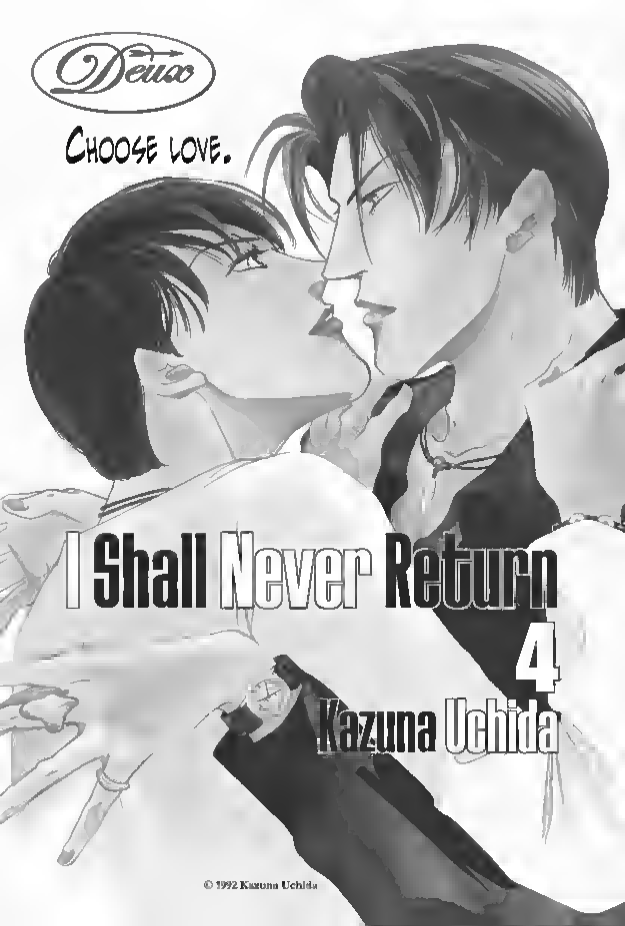
Everyone is born to make someone happy

IF THAT'S THE TRUTH...

If you're going...
...to India, it won't just be for a week or two right?
Ritsuro ...
Don't leave me by myself!
Can I make Ritsuro happy?
I'LL MAKE HIM HAPPY.

No it's not
Then why...?
Is it really OK to do this to me?!
I've made up my mind

The story continues in *I Shall Never Return Volume 4*



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Mister Mistress

1

Fujimaru is your typical teenage boy except for the fact that he's stuck with a demonic incubus who lives off of his erotic dreams!

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EXPLICIT CONTENT

Rize Shinba

Deux

Kiss All the Boys

What's a guy to do when his best friend loves him in "that way"?

Shiuko Kano

2

Deux

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Tomcats

Pint-sized human cats, shady "men in black," cat gods and more!

Mashiro Minamino

Deux

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Where Fantasy Becomes Obsession...

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This is the back of the book. Read from right to left.

◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ Turn over & enjoy! ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀

I Shall Never Return

3

I Shall Never Return • Volume 3

Story and Art by Kazuma Uchida

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Where Fantasy Becomes Obsession